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The People.

VOL. VII.—NO. 52. NEW YORK, MARCH 27, 1898. PRICE 3 CENTS.

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HIDE-TANNING.

How Things Look in Gloversville All Around.

The Same as of Old, When the Robber Knights and other Chieftains Secured the Aid of the Parsons by Endowments out of Stolen Goods, Now the Capitalist Class Secures the Good Will of the Parsons by Endowing Churches out of Wage Reductions—Wage Slaves' Hides Tanned Successfully—Looks as Though they are Getting Tired of this, and Mean to take a Hand.

GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y., March 20.—Gloversville presents to the Socialist eye a sight that is common in our industrial centers. Here we have a city of workingmen wasting their political power in the interest of their oppressors and submitting to economic conditions made possible by their own acts.

The population of Gloversville is 15,000, and divided as follows:

Upper capitalist class, 150;
Middle class, 1,500;
Working class, 13,500.

Thus it is seen that this is in its strictest sense a working class city. Gloves and leather is the industry in which everybody is employed, and the conditions are such that if the wives and children did not put in their spare time working at home on gloves, the citizens would be on the verge of starvation.

Gloversville, during the campaign of 1896, placed itself foremost in the ranks of the "Party of Prosperity." The manufacturers and their agents convinced the workers that the Advance Agent of Prosperity was coming, and the entire city went to meet him at the ballot box on election day. Subsequent events prove that his arrival was of vast benefit to the workers of Gloversville, for they were so prosperous that they did not require as much money after his arrival than they did before, and the manufacturers, recognizing that fact, chopped off a piece of their wages. The wage earners of Gloversville are so happy at the arrival of Hanna, McKinley & Co. that there are over 300 of them walking around idle, because, being prosperous, they need not work as hard as they had to before the Hanna-McKinley-Gold-Bug-High Tariff combination struck town. So wishing to have the full enjoyment of their prosperity they are taking a few months' holiday.

Of course the manufacturers claim that these men are on strike. But that is an error. They have done so well since the Republican party has secured control of the government that they decided to live on their savings which they have accumulated since March 4, 1897.

During the campaign several manufacturers stumped the city for McKinley, and promised the workers a raise in case Mark Hanna won; it is on this raise of wages on which the strikers are living.

Among these philanthropic men comes first the Congressman from this district, one Littauer, a large manufacturer, who runs a factory in Johnstown as well as in Gloversville, where he dresses leather and makes gloves. He is a prominent citizen of this place, and "has the interests of the workingmen at heart." He is the owner of the evening paper of Gloversville called the "Leader." Not one word has appeared in the interest of the strikers during the seven weeks the men have been out. That public spirited noble hearted citizen who loves the people of Fulton County so well that he will not allow the railroad that covers the three miles between Johnstown and Gloversville to charge more than 10 cents for the ride, this good man as an interested party in the gas and electric plant of this city, has seen to it that the latest improvements in gas ranges and electric lighting is in use among the workers of Gloversville, for he has aided the other good and prominent citizens in making gas and electric power cheap. This Congressman Littauer some time ago told his workingmen that business was bad and he would have to close his mill unless the workers were willing to wait three months for their pay; so they agreed to do so, and when the three months expired and the men wanted their money he told them unless they were willing to accept a reduction of 15 per cent. he could not pay them, so they took the reduction, and after it Littauer invested $40,000 dollars in Western land. This noble Littauer all love him; and judging by the sentiment I hear, if they get a chance to repay this noble, kind and public spirited fleecer of labor, he will hear from them in no uncertain tones through the ballot of the Socialist Labor party.

The next prominent worthy of attention is the member of Assembly in this district, Mr. Dan. Harp, who on Sunday presented the church with $500, and on Monday cut the wages of his men 25 per cent. This good man sent to the Assembly by the votes of the workingmen of Gloversville has done so much for them that this city is a "paradise."

There are others. This city is full of "noble men." The Mayor, another one of the labor-skinning gentry, is noted for his kind heart and public spirit—at the expense of the producers.

An Alderman, Frank Peck by name, who is also a manufacturer, is considerate of his workmen that he will not put them to the trouble of going from store to store to change a bill, so he pays them in store orders, and only charges them 5 per cent. for the accommodation, and the store-keeper charges another five, which makes it ten in all.

Mr. Kennedy is another of those public spirited citizens with whom Gloversville is afflicted. He is also a manufacturer, a good churchman, and a "friend of the workingman." His gift of $15,000 to the church is the subject of the city talk. He wants to save the heathen in foreign lands, and he only deducts 15 per cent. of the wages of his employees when he could have deducted 25 per cent. if he wished. But he has a kind heart.

Last, but not the least, is the Republican leader of Gloversville, Mr. Filmore, who is the owner of the city, being the boss in politics here. This gentleman is a manufacturer, engaged in the business of dressing hides; he is an expert in that line, as he has dressed the hides of his employees so well that they cannot call their souls their own. Every year at election time the workingmen of Gloversville run over each other in trying to be first to grasp the hand of Mr. Filmore; but only those who have no other prospects are willing to work in his factory.

Hide tanning and dressing is the industry of Gloversville, and business has been flourishing, as the hides of the working class are well tanned and dressed. But Gloversville is full of promise, and if I am correct the working class here is opening its eyes to the character of its labor-skinning, labor-fleecing, church contributing prominent citizens. The near future will show that the working class have gone into the hide tanning dressing business on their own account; and it will be the hides of the masters, tanners and dressers that will be dressed with the class-conscious ballot of the Socialist Labor party on next election day.

CHAS. T. VANDER PORTEN.

THE COMMUNE

Its Celebration in Syracuse, N. Y., Where Lucien Sanial Spoke.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., March 22.—The revolutionary spirit of the Communists of 1871 manifested itself in a most striking manner at the celebration in this city on Sunday night when Armbruster's Hall was filled to overflowing with men and women who came to commemorate the memory of those martyrs to the cause of the proletariat. Enthusiasm was felt by all present throughout the rendering of the programme, which took nearly five hours, but it did not reach its highest manifestation until "The Marseilleise" was sung, the Labor Singing Society and the entire audience joining, each nationality with its own language. As the last stanza of this soul-stirring anthem was being sung the curtain rose and living pictures were shown, very suggestive of the past, the present and the future. The scenes recently enacted at Hazleton were vividly portrayed. On the right of the stage stood soldiers with muskets raised, while on the ground lay the miners whom they had shot. In the centre was a workingman with one foot on a globe and holding aloft the Red Flag in one hand and the Hammer in the other, while, seemingly, the muskets of the military were aimed directly at him. On each side of the stage stood a woman, with a white robe and a red sash, one holding a lighted torch and the other a banner.

The scene brought out long and continued applause.

Comrade Lucien Sanial was the English speaker of the evening, and Comrade Carl Voss the German speaker.

Comrade Sanial explained the meaning of the Commune of early days, described the revolution of 1848, and the proletarian revolt of 1871, and the conflict at Montmarte, where 10,000 men, women and children fought to the last.

"Our tactics to-day," he said, "are changed somewhat. We are tired of spilling our own blood continually, all for nothing apparently. We sing in the Marseillaise, 'To arm, citizens!' Now we say rather, "To school, citizens!" The man who knows, the man who understands is the man who can successfully carry on the movement until the majority is with us. Our movement is no less revolutionary. We must educate first, for it is first of all an educational movement. Call upon the people to study, to know how to use the ballot, that they may know how to use the bullet if necessary.

"The Socialist Labor party is the true party, the party that is going to abolish all classes. On the day of its triumph there will be happiness throughout the world. I hope that you will see things in the light that it is right that they should be seen. The capitalists through their newspapers, legislatures and mouthpieces misrepresent them. But when our principles are studied and truly represented they should win. When you are fully impressed with them, I hope you will be so imbued with the spirit of the movement that this true prosperity will be established.

"I do not know when it will come, but I believe this great day will be in the early years of the next century. I expect that the Socialist flag will first wave over the city of Paris, and that within 24 hours it will float over the imperial palace of Germany and over all royal palaces of Europe. We in America must be ready for that great day. We also must be ready to occupy the position which we shall be called upon to take under the banner of the Socialist party."

The programme consisted of music by orchestra, labor singing society, mandolin and glee clubs, and recitations of a revolutionary character.

THOS. CRIMMINS.

Free Lectures will be given by the 14th Ward Branch of the Socialist Labor party on political, social and economic subjects, at Palace Hall, (second floor), 89 to 93 Grand street:

Wednesday, March 30—"Deceptive Appearances," H. Simpson.
Wednesday, April 6th — "Trades Unions," B. Hughes.

Lectures commence at 8 p. m., and occupy about 45 minutes. The audience will be accorded the privilege of asking questions, which will be answered by the lecturer. The working class, in whose interest these lectures have been arranged, are especially invited to attend.

A KNOCK-DOWN.

Local Union 464 United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners Speak Out Plainly.

To Mr. Samuel Gompers and Andrew Furnseth, Legislative Committee, A. F. of L.:

Brothers, Greeting:—This organization, No. 464, Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, hereby wishes to make answer to your circular asking for the endorsement of your labor bills, mentioned therein, and stating that your success with Congress and the passing of these bills will depend upon our assistance.

The bills you propose are certainly good, but the theory upon which they proceed is bad, so bad that it renders your conduct injurious to the working class.

Your theory is that all that is needed is good laws, labor laws, regardless of the class of people elected to pass and enforce these laws. Now, the fact is that the statute books of the land are bursting with "labor laws." If one-half of these laws were enforced, the condition of our fellow wage earners would be fairly good. But our condition is miserable.

We have the automatic coupler law; the 10-hour railroad law; the bi-monthly pay law; the anti-fines law; factory laws untold to protect the life and limbs of employees; the bakery laws; the anti-truck laws; the screen laws; the anti-sweatshop laws; 8-hour laws for government employees; anti-child labor laws; union label laws; anti-tenementhouse cigar factory laws; maritime laws, etc., etc.

Despite all these laws and hundreds of others that we could mention, they remain dead letters:—railroad men continue to be killed and maimed because the railroad companies refuse to obey the automatic coupler law; railroad employees continue to be worked over 10 hours a day despite the 10-hour law; manufacturers continue to fine the textile workers despite the anti-fines law; employers disregard the provisions of the factory laws to the sorrow of their hands; the baker shops continue to spread disease among the employees despite the bake-shop laws; the mine workers continue to be plucked by the truck stores and to be cheated of their pay despite screen laws and anti-truck laws; workingmen, women and children continue to be sweated as though no anti-sweatshop laws were there; employees are blacklisted and driven from pillar to post just the same as before the passage of the anti-blacklisting law; despite 8-hour laws for government employees these are worked now as before 10 and 12 and more hours; despite child labor laws the children of the working class are skinned in factories, shops and mines; despite union label laws, the labels are not respected; despite anti-tenement house cigar factory laws, cigars are manufactured in large quantities in tenement houses; despite all the beautiful maritime laws, some of which you quote as recognized by "all nations," the seaman's condition continues to resemble that of chattel slaves, and the treatment they receive continues to be the treatment of dogs—as you may judge from the circumstance that very few of them escaped from the recent explosion of the Maine in Havana harbor, while only two of the officers suffered, these being bunked in safe parts of the ship, while the sailors were consigned to the dangerous parts of the ship, etc., etc.

Why is this? Why, despite all these good laws, are they not enforced? They are shamelessly violated; the police, the militia and the military are constantly seen helping the capitalist class breaking these laws; the judges are seen to evade and virtually repeal them; and the Legislatures sit silently by and do not administer swift punishment by impeaching these Executive and Judicial law-breakers, but approve their misdeeds. Why is this, and the continued misery of the workers, despite all these good labor laws, the products of just such legislative committees as yours?

The answer is plain. It is stupid to imagine that laws that are to do good to the working people will be ENFORCED by the political lackeys of the capitalist class. And it follows that when these political lackeys pass laws that, if enforced, would benefit us, they pass such laws knowing that they never will be enforced, and they pass them, not to do us good, but to do us harm. The harm they do us thereby lies in deceiving us with the false hope that good will come from them; in keeping us in ignorance; and thereby preventing us from electing our own men, out of our own camp, upon the exclusive platform of the working class that demands the abolition of the wage system, and that the worker shall keep all that he produces without being robbed of nine-tenths of his product by the capitalist class. All the labor laws so far passed and lobbied by labor "legislative committees" have had that effect only. By making yourselves such a committee now, and seeking some more such "labor laws" at the hands of men elected on the platforms of capital, you simply play into the hands of the capitalist class, and help them to continue to deceive the workers upon whence their salvation or progress can come. All such measures turn the workers' eyes to the capitalist parties, whence NO HELP can come; these measures turn the workers' eyes away from themselves, from their own class, whence ALONE help can come by their organizing themselves into a

(Continued on Page 3.)

TOWARD THE 100,000.

Manifesto of the Maryland State Committee, S. L. P., to the Proletariat of the State.

To the Working Class of Maryland and the District of Columbia:

Fellow Workingmen:

The Socialist Labor party of Maryland and the District of Columbia, at a convention held in Baltimore on the 6th of March, decided to locate the State Committee at Washington, and instructed the committee to prepare a manifesto setting forth the salient features of Socialism. In obedience to that instruction we now address you.

Before telling you who Socialists are and what Socialism is, let us examine for a little while "Capitalists" and "Capitalism." The Socialist is always attacking the capitalist system of production. Why?

Because it is owing to the capitalist system of production that thousands of us are denied the right to produce the necessaries and comforts of life, while those who are permitted to avail ourselves of that right are compelled to work under conditions that deprive us of leisure and ruin our health. It is this capitalist system of production that enables the capitalist class to riot in luxury and idleness while the working class vegetates in poverty. It is this capitalist system of production that produces the millionaire, the Seeley-diner, the pauper, the tramp and the criminal. It is for these reasons that the Socialist is continually denouncing the capitalist system of production. What, then, is this capitalist system of production?

In order to explain it and its working very clearly, let us refer for a moment to the last census. From the figures obtained in 1890 (and remember that these figures were given by the capitalists, and that therefore if they are incorrect the are certain to favor the capitalists themselves) it was learned that the average wages paid last year to the employees of the manufacturing establishments in the United States were $445, while the average value of the NEW wealth produced by each of those employees was $945. Subtracting $445 from $945 gives a remainder of $500. That is to say that a member of the working class produces in a year wealth that has a value of $945, and that he is able to retain for his own use wealth to the value of but $445. It is evident, then, that some one else, who has not aided in production, gets the $500. How does he get it?

In order to obtain a still simpler form of the problem let's reduce the matter to the basis of the working day. Taking 300 as the number of working days in a year, we find that the value of wealth produced in a day by each of these employees is $3.15, and that his daily wages are $1.48. That is to say that a member of the working class produces in a day wealth that has a value of $3.15, and is able to keep wealth to the value of but $1.48. Who gets the remaining $1.67, and how?

The Capitalist gets it through the medium of the capitalist system of production. Now let us see what that system is.

Out in Indiana there is a city called South Bend. In that city is located the Studebaker wagon factory. Entering this factory, we are amazed at the sight that presents itself. Above our heads is rod after rod of shafting. Mile after mile of belting connects this shafting with hundreds of machines, that crowd the floor as far as the eye can reach. At each of these machines is a man or a number of men by whom the action of the machine is controlled. There are planing machines, and ripping machines, and sawing machines, and other machines of all sorts and sizes. Into the mouth of one of them men are thrusting rough boards. The jaws grip the boards, and, shortly they appear with a surface as smooth as glass. These boards are then fed into another machine, and this time they appear in the form of long strips about an inch square. They are fed into a third machine, and shortly we see, not the long strips, but a lot of strips a couple of feet in length. These short strips are passed through other machines, and finally we are shown a spoke for a wheel. A spoke is, however, a small part of a wheel, and a wheel is a small part of a wagon. There are axle-trees, the singletrees, the doubletrees, the neep, the neckyoke, the box, and a score of other parts. For most of these parts there are machines nicely adapted for doing the work, and there are the men who tend the machines.

Now, of what does this factory consist?

There is the land on which the building stands.

There is the building itself.

There are the tools and machinery in the building.

There is all the lumber, iron, paint and other things constituting the material used in making a wagon.

And finally there are the finished wagons which the men and women produce.

Do the men at these machines own the land on which the building stands? They do not.

Do the men at these machines own the machines or the tools with which they work? They do not.

Do they own the material—the lumber, iron and paint—that they use? They do not.

Do they own the wagons that their labor, and their alone, has produced? They do not.

Who does own this land, this building, these tools and this machinery, and the wagons? The factory, all that it contains, and all that the men in it produce, is owned by a company consisting of one or more men. The men who own it may never have seen South Bend, may not know of the Studebaker wagon, when they see it, have never produced one bit of the machinery in the factory, have never aided in producing one of the wagons. Yet they own the whole business.

The men who do all the work, what do they own? Absolutely nothing but their labor-power, which the capitalist system of production, backed up by laws made by those who fatten on the system, compel them to sell at the best figures they can to those who own the machinery and the building. That thing labor-power, which is all they have to sell, is sold as is a bushel of wheat, for what the owner can get for it. If there is more wheat for sale than the consumers of wheat want, the price goes down. If there is more labor-power for sale than the consumers of it want, the price goes down. The consumers of labor-power are the capitalists, and the only persons to whom the laborer can sell his labor-power are the capitalists.

This building, this machinery, these tools, even, in a sense, this lumber, iron and paint, considered as a whole, are called capital, or the means of production. The owner of capital is a capitalist, and the system of producing wagons in which the capitalist is the king is called the capitalist system of producing wagons. This wagon factory is a type. Practically every thing that we eat, drink and wear is produced in exactly the same way. The cloth of which our clothing is made is produced in gigantic factories, owned as this wagon factory is owned, and the class that owns them does no work and lives on the fat of the land, while the class that does all the work merely exists.

When this system of producing wagons becomes the general system of production, when practically all industries are carried on in this way by purchased labor power, when the capitalists dominate municipal councils, State Legislatures, Congress, the Courts, elect Governors and Presidents, control the army and the navy, when, in short, the CAPITALISTS RUN THE COUNTRY, we have CAPITALISM.

To sum up, the capitalist system of production is that system under which the capitalist class owns all the machinery and other means of producing food, clothing, shelter and the comforts and luxuries of life. We of the working class have but one commodity to sell, and that commodity is our labor power. We must sell our labor power or starve. The only men who can buy this labor power are the men who own this machinery of production—the capitalists. But how much will they pay us for our labor power? Just what they have to. If a capitalist is buying wheat, he gets it as cheap as he can. If a capitalist is buying labor-power, he gets it as cheap as he can. Now, what is one of the principal things that determines the price of a bushel of wheat? Clearly the relation of supply to demand. If there is more wheat in the country than people care for, the competition of the wheat owners to sell their wheat will lower the price. It is just the same with labor power. Lessen the demand for it and the price will fall.

The demand is lessened for a commodity when people can get along with less of it. The demand is lessened for labor-power when the capitalists can get along with less of it. Now we come to the machine. Is it not clear that if in a given trade there are ten capitalists employing one hundred men each, that the demand for that particular kind of labor power will be lessened if those capitalists can get along with less of it? Suppose each of those capitalists introduces machinery by which ten men will produce as much as a hundred men formerly produced? In each factory ninety men will lose their jobs (be deprived of a market for their labor power), and the nine hundred men will then COMPETE for the chances to sell their labor power. Hence the price which the capitalist will be obliged to pay for it falls. This is the second salient feature of the capitalist system of production: The workingmen are compelled to compete with each other to sell their labor power, just as the wheat owners are compelled to compete with each other to sell their wheat. LABOR POWER IS A COMMODITY, and the fact that the capitalists own these machines enables them to compel us to work for starvation wages. Out of the total wealth that we produce they return us in the form of wages barely enough to keep us in working condition. The rest they keep themselves.

So much for capital, for capitalists, the capitalist system of production, and capitalism. Now let me treat briefly of Socialism.

As capitalism is private property in the means of production that men must use in order to produce the necessaries, comforts and luxuries of life, so Socialism means the collective ownership and co-operative operation of the means of production and distribution. That is to say, that all the factories, mines, railroads, etc., shall become the property of the people; that having become the property of the people, we shall determine how much clothing, food, etc., we need annually in order that we may live and enjoy life, and then operate the factories, mines and railroads long enough to produce these things. At present it could be done with less than three hours of labor per day for every able bodied man in the United States. Mind you, I say EVERY able bodied man; for it is a principle of Socialism that none shall live upon the labor of others, as the capitalists and their parasites live to-day. Under capitalism, the introduction of machinery

(Continued on Page 3.)

SUGAR.

How it has Recently Figured in the Role of "Patriotism."

Actual Reasons that Render the Defeat of the Hawaiian Treaty a Foregone Conclusion—Below the Dust of "Patriotism," Under which its Supporters and Opposers Alike Carried on the Fight, was the Distinct and Conflicting Material Interest of the Holders of Stock in Hawaiian Sugar and the Holders of Beet Sugar Plantations in Nebraska—Sugar Talked, Not Patriotism.

The Hawaiian treaty, which meant Hawaiian annexation, is defeated. Why was this thusly?

During the debate the tide of "patriotism" beat high. Those for and those against the treaty grounded their arguments on "patriotism."

"We," declared the pro-treaty men, "would be untrue to the instinct of patriotism if we did not annex the islands. Civilization, that we stand for, demand that. It demands that doubly. It demands that, in the first place, as thereby we strengthen America, seize the 'Key to the Pacific," enable us to fortify ourselves at home all the better by extending our naval opportunities and thereby present a more impregnable and imposing front to the combined forces of foreign nations. Patriotism demands the annexation of the islands on the further ground that it is the historic mission of America to extend the area of freedom; to bring into ever further and remoter parts of the world the light of our civilization and our free institutions. And this is a duty we owe to others. Patriotism commands; every true American should obey the behest."

On the other hand, the opposers of the treaty declared with even greater unction: "Patriotism is the star that guides our action. As true Americans, we oppose the treaty because it aims a fatal blow at our dearest national principles. What! Take possession of distant islands that are exposed, by reason of their very distance, to the attacks of all the foes of American institutions and of our sacred freedom! What! Inject into our composition the mongrel breeds of those islands, and thus lower the purity of our Anglo-Saxon blood! What! Repudiate Washington's warning against entangling alliances, and, by setting up our flag on those distant shores, compel us into alliances of all natures with foreign powers! Perish the thought. Patriotism brands the treaty un-American; love for our country commands its rejection. We bow to the voice of patriotism and oppose the treaty."

Which was right? Which spoke truthfully?—Neither.

To understand the cause of the defeat of the Hawaiian treaty we must dive below the dust of "patriotism" raised by the combined efforts of both sides for the express purpose of concealing their real motives. What these motives were the following telegram, freshly sent from Washington to Nebraska by Mr. Henry T. Oxnard, will give an idea of:

"My investigation here convinces me that, although not officially withdrawn, Hawaiian annexation cannot prevail. In view of the certainty of this, it seems to me unnecessary to complicate our Nebraska beet contracts with the Hawaiian clause any longer, and I authorize its withdrawal."

Mr. Oxnard is a leading sugar beet raiser. Being a capitalist, he is also a leading politician. So long as the Hawaiian treaty trembled in the scales, the Nebraska beet contracts were hampered by a clause that materially qualified them. The sugar of Hawaii would have become, in case of annexation, a competitor of the Nebraska beet product. The patriot cat is out of the bag.

When the anti-annexionists wrapped themselves in the American flag, they did so to conceal their beet sugar interests; and when they denounced the treaty as "unpatriotic," what they meant was that it was un-beet-sugary.

On the other hand, when the pro-annexationists wrapped themselves in the American flag they did so to conceal their stocks and bonds in Hawaiian sugar; and when they favored the treaty as "patriotic," what they meant to say was that it raised the stock-exchange quotations of their stock, and was pregnant with higher dividends.

In this case beet sugar won.

There is no exception to this principle: The capitalist's country is his pocket; his patriotism is his profits; and when he uses the words "American," "Patriotism" and the like, he does so only as a mask—a mask that, at convenient times, so completely deceives the working people, that they allow themselves to be cajoled by it, and expose their lives—for the greater glory of the Capitalist Class.

The English translation of Karl Marx' "Eighteenth Brumaire," that recently ran through THE PEOPLE, is frontispiece. This work is of great value. No Socialist, even though he be no student, and no student even though he be no Socialist, can afford to be without it. Apply Labor News Co., 64 E. 4th street, N. Y. city. Price 25 cents.

With the first issue of next April, April 3, the price of THE PEOPLE will be reduced from $1 to 50 cents a year; six months 25 cents; single copies 2 cts.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential)	2,068
In 1890	13,331
In 1892 (Presidential)	21,157
In 1894	33,133
In 1896 (Presidential)	36,564
In 1897	**55,673**

A hundred miles from London town—
Where the river goes curving and broadening down,
From tree-top to spire, and spire to mast,
Till it tumbles outright in the Channel at last
A hundred miles from that flat foreshore
That the Danes and the Northmen haunt no more
There's a little cup in the Cotswold hills
Which a spring in a meadow bubbles and fills,
Spanned by a heron's wing—crossed by a stride—
Calm and untroubled by dreams of pride,
Guiltless of Fame or Ambition's aims
That is the source of the mighty Thames!

Bret Harte.

With this issue closes Vol. VII. of THE PEOPLE. With the next issue Vol. VIII. starts under the new scale of prices.

The responses that have come in upon the reduction of the price to one half are highly encouraging. Let each reader duplicate the number of subscribers in his neighborhood.

RIGHT THOU ART, ELIHU!

At the public hearing before the Joint Judiciary Committee of the New York Legislature, held in Albany on the 11th instant, on the pending Primaries Bill, on which occasion the Socialist Labor party appeared in protest, Mr. Elihu Root, representing the New York Union League Club, declared:

"The idea is utterly un-American that the capitalists coerce their employees to vote one way or another."

Right thou art, Elihu!

Understanding, of course, by "American," freedom, the idea of coercing citizens to vote against their convictions is certainly un-American.

For the same reason, the conditions under which such coercing practices are possible must be branded as unAmerican.

Now, it is a fact known to every intelligent man, and undenied by all truthful men, that both the conditions that give birth to coercion, and actual coercion exist here, and are rampant.

Mr. Root spoke more truthfully than he knew, and his words extended wider and deeper than he thought of. What he said means:

"The existing conditions of popular dependence upon a capitalist minority constitute an un-American, being a slavish, social foundation; as I stand here representing just such conditions and upholding them, I, the club that sent me, and the whole class I speak for, are unspeakably un-American."

All of which is cause that we repeat:

"Right thou art, Elihu!"

"BROADNESS" No. 2.

In our issue of last November 28, we started in these columns a photographic gallery under the above head, to illustrate what was in the minds of those who charge the S. L. P. with not being broad. The first picture hung up was that of Mr. F. G. R. Gordon of Manchester, N. H., whose "broadness" was illustrated by the swindle of his taking money from the S. L. P. as organizer while he was seeking to discredit the party. To-day, obedient to our forecast that more "broadnesses" would follow, we hang up picture No. 2. It is that of Mr. James F. Carey, of Haverhill.

Mr. Carey was until recently a member of the party. At the late municipal campaign in Haverhill, Mass., he was nominated by the party for Councilman; at his nomination he signed the resignation blank required by the party's constitution, whereby candidates pledge themselves, if elected, to lay down their office upon the party's demand, should they become untrue. He was elected, and almost immediately after, he left the party. Such conduct in itself was fishy. It was all the more so for other reasons that came to light immediately. The party then demanded his resignation, in other words, demanded that he keep his pledge or word. He declined. This would be enough to entitle him to a place in our gallery of "broadnesses," made up of the physiognomies of men who are so broad as to take into their composition a breach of trust. But Mr. Carey was "broader" still.

The Haverhill "Evening Gazette" of the 10th instant contained a leading article, written by himself or inspired by him, in which the grounds are given why he does not comply with the party's demand and his own pledge, and resign. Among these reasons, the following is one:

"Had James F. Carey been elected solely by the votes of Socialists, there might be force in the objections urged against him. The fact is, however, that he was chosen as one of the members of the popular branch of the city government by the votes of men of all parties."

This argument it is that entitles Mr. Carey to a leading place among the "broadnesses."

He who stands for election, can not answer for it that no one but "men of his party" will vote for him; moreover, the "men of the Socialist Labor party" are yet so few in numbers that an election by them alone in Haverhill is out of all question. Mr. Carey knew full well that, "if elected," he must be elected by a majority of votes of "men of other parties." When, accordingly, with such knowledge, he put his signature to the pledge that, upon the party's demand, he would resign, Mr. Carey DID SO WITH THE MENTAL RESERVATION THAT HE WOULD NOT. In other words, the foulness, i. e., "broadness" of his action was not the result of a casual moral lapse; it was a premeditated and deliberate bit of moral turpitude.

In one way such "broadness" almost makes a "narrow" man of Gordon; it also throws into the shade the peculiar "broadness" for which Mr. Carey was known before,—the "broadness" of turning himself into a broad Commissary of Slander against the party, a charge pointedly (the finger being pointed at him) brought against him in his presence at the Lawrence, Massachusetts, State Convention of the S. L. P. last year.

As time passes the "narrowness" of the S. L. P. will shine forth with increasing lustre, like the sun breaking its way through dark clouds. The "broadness" that others practise, and that causes them to find fault with the party, serves all along as an excellent contrast to bring out that with them "broadness" means swindle; "narrowness," honesty.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

The London "Statist," in an article on the prospects of the United States declaring war on Spain, says:

"Russia, a poorer country than the United States, has over $131,000,000 in gold devotable to war purposes. The large surplus in the United States Treasury is due to Mr. Cleveland's gold loans and the sale of the Union Pacific. Subtracting the gold reserve against the greenbacks, only £25,000,000 is available. Therefore, in view of the considerable annual deficit, it seems incredible that the Secretary of the Treasury will draw considerably on his cash balance without fresh taxation."

The "Statist" may not be aware of it, but in taking up the "patriotic" question of war with Cuba from the material side, from the side that will affect, and that alone will affect, the class that now owns the Government, it reveals, if not conscious knowledge, at least instinctive knowledge, of the springs of capitalist "patriotism"; and, proceeding from such correct premises, correctly hints a doubt at actual war.

Less correct is the instinct, or more shaky the knowledge, on the basis of sociology of Prof. Goldwin Smith.

In the current number of the "North American Review," the Professor stands amazed and puzzled at the fact that now:

"Party is the government of the United States, not only practically installed, but formally recognized by law;"

while, a century earlier, at the foundation of the country, a striking feature was:

"The total absence of any reference to party, or the party system of government in the debates of the constitutional convention."

When the constitutional convention, referred to, was holding its sessions, the country was just free from England; that is to say, the bourgeois, or oncoming capitalist class, had just snapped the feudal bonds that had hampered its growth. At such an early date, the nation presented the appearance of a uniform class, the bourgeois-landlord class that had required and made the revolution. The deep class distinctions of capitalist society were not then palpable, however latent. A population of uniform class interests is reflected in their political debates; consequently, there being no marked, conscious and warring class interests—the rockbed of parties—"party" was wholly absent from the debates in the constitutional convention.

For the same reason that this was thatwise then, it is and must be otherwise now:

Since then capitalism has developed into full growth here. As a result of that, we now have, not only the two typical classes—the capitalist and the proletariat—, besides that transition class that is ground to dust between the upper and the nether mill-stone of the capitalist and the proletariat or working class, but we have the strongly marked and conflicting sub-interests of the upper class, as revealed by the tariff discussions and the feud between the silver mine owners, on the one hand, and the gold men on the other. With the material development that breeds conscious classes and subclasses with conflicting interests, in a word, with the rise of the necessary foundation for parties, "party" must make its appearance and instál itself into more and more formal recognition.

To wonder why no "parties" were a century ago, is to wonder why the baby born to-day does not bother about shaving utensils.

To wonder why "parties" are to-day and in vigorous force, is to wonder why the adult male has recourse to the barber shop.

A Gold-Protection, a Gold-Free-Trade, a Silver-Free-Trade, and a Socialist Labor party are phenomena that can puzzle only men who, whether sporting the title of "Professor" or not, lack information on that fundamental principle of sociology that teaches that material interests are the foundation and mainspring of social evolution; and those, who, besides being puzzled, are saddened by this phenomenon, and impute it to retrogression, reveal still greater depths of ignorance on the question.

The present power of parties and their sharply marked lines are a symptom of progress and forerunners of great and beneficent events that are at hand.

The Chicago, Ill., correspondent for the New York "Vorwärts," German organ of the S. L. P., draws this instructive picture:

"A local branch of the Debs party, that meets off and on in S. Halstead street, illustrates of what sort of element that party is made up. This branch is led by a few small business men; it seeks to remodel the world by a continuous bombardment of the Department Stores. Some of these people, whom such harmless pastime no longer satisfies, are now trying to try their luck with the Democratic party, from whom they have more to expect than from the so-called 'Social-Democracy.' These slyboots of 'true Socialists,' have latterly been straining every nerve to secure a place on the Democratic ticket. One of them, who is willing and ready to serve the citizens of the Sixth Ward in the capacity of Alderman, has already proclaimed himself a candidate. Another desires the Democratic nomination in South Town.

"Thus the wonderful bedfellowship that must follow from so confused a movement as the Debsian, is becoming daily more evident."

The San Francisco, Cal., "New Charter" gives this interesting picture of a recent scene in its city:

"The labor fakir, wherever you find him, is an 'amoosin' cuss.' A labor convention, composed of delegates from many labor bodies, holds regular sessions in this city. At a recent session a speech made by a delegate precipitated a discussion on the question of 'politics or no politics in the unions.' As soon as the fakirs saw the drift, one of them sprang to his feet and jerked out, 'move we adjourn.' At the end of every speech he made the same motion. The interest in the question increased. The case became desperate for the fakirs. There was a hurried consultation, then they jumped to their feet and moved to adjourn and made for the door, hoping to stampede the convention. It failed. The fakirs went out alone."

"The trade-union (meaning pure and simple) movement is broad enough and comprehensive enough to merit the support of all."—Iron Moulders' Journal.

Nay, nay!

If the banks of a river are too broad ("broad enough"), the thing ceases to be a river and becomes a swamp; in other words, is not of use for navigation, but good alone to produce mosquitos and fever and ague.

Such is the effect of the "broadness" of the "pure and simple" trade-union movement. It is so broad that the stream becomes sluggish, a swamp and fit only for miasmas.

Mr. D. G. Powers writes in the "Yale Review" that:

"No reform affecting morals was ever completed mainly by or through law. Slavery in England was abolished, as Macaulay has pointed out in chapter I. of the first volume of his history, not by law, but in spite of it. The moral forces directed by the church were mightier than the power of the state, and saved the people from old slavery and led them up to new opportunities."

All of which goes to show that Mr. Powers is about as complete a specimen of all around muddleheadedness as there is.

According to him, what ignites the stick of the old phosphorus matches is the sulphur;—which is not true. What starts "the ball rolling" is the heat generated by friction; that heat ignites the phosphorus; the heated phosphorus ignites the sulphur; and lastly the heated sulphur ignites the stick. Without that process the match could not be set ablaze.

So likewise with reforms. Of course "law" does not do it; what does it is that that gives birth to law, which word "law" means the expressed will of class interests. As with the above illustration of the match, the "moral force" does not come into play from the start, any more than the sulphur does. Material interests "start the ball" agoing, that ignites the moral forces, the two together produce revolution and "law" finally in the written expression of the successful uprising.

Mr. Powers should try to return to the "Yale Review" the material pay he got for his silly article. The difficulty he will find in doing so, the readiness with which his "moral force" will yield to his material needs may then help him to place and see things in their proper perspective.

A ONE ACT SKETCH.

[Dedicated by ARTHUR KEEP, Washington, D. C., to those of the profession, who, having found it impossible, owing to the formation of the trust, to secure jobs in the legitimate, are compelled to appear in vaudeville and need such sketches, of which there seems to be a dearth.]

Dramatic Personnæ:

Micheal Workmanus—A victim of circumstances.

Eugenus Debsus—A victim of hallucinations.

Time—The present.

Location—Any old place.

Curtain rises and Workmanus is discovered lying unconscious with a gaping wound in his head from which blood is flowing. Nearby is a large and wicked-looking brick, one end of which is smeared with blood and hair. Enter Debsus, reading Gibbons' "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," with the New Testament tucked under his arm; he stumbles over the brick, stops reading and looks at it; notices the blood and hair on it, and says: "What's this? Blood! hair! there must be something wrong."

Workmanus has been regaining consciousness, and is now perceived by Debsus to be turning over and groaning.

Debsus approaches, and kneeling down, says: "My poor man, you are hurt."

Workmanus—"By Job, you're right, I am!"

Debsus—"What hurt you, my poor fellow? Oh, what an ugly-looking wound you have on your head; it makes my heart bleed to see it!"

Workmanus slowly rises, leans on one elbow, and says—"Say, you're hot stuff; I got hit with a brick just now as I was walking along; I don't know who threw it."

Debsus walks to the brick, picks it up, goes back to Workmanus, and says—"Is this the brick that hit you, my friend?"

Workmanus—"That's it, that's it. Oh, the dirty cur that threw it. If I catch him, that's the last brick he'll ever throw."

Debsus turns brick over, starts and says—"My friend, look here. Don't you see this brick is labeled 'CapitalisTIC System?' That's what hit you. Do you notice what vicious-looking sharp edges and corners it has, and here is your blood and your hair; is it not a horrible thing? Do you not see what harm it can do and has done you?"

Workmanus—"I do; I do. But, say, if it has a name on it it must belong to some one. What do those words mean?"

Debsis—"Why, they mean 'CapitalisTIC system?'"

Wormanus—"Say, you're great; you know that right off! Let me shake your hand." (They shake hands.) "But, oh, my head hurts so. I say I'd like to know who owns that brick. Do you know?"

Debsus—"That brick, my friend, belongs to society; you are part of society; you helped make that brick, and you are part-owner of it. But what an awful-looking thing it is! You should destroy it. You should do away with it. Don't let such a disgusting thing exist. Look what a terrible hole it has made in your head. How it has caused you to lose blood and flesh. Destroy it utterly!"

Workmanus—"By Job, you're all right, all right. Say, let's smash it up. Let's kick the stuffing out of it! Wow, how my head aches! Hurray, we'll fix it! Wow! I'm dying—Say, hold on, though. You say that brick is labelled 'CapitalistIC system,' and that society, of which I am a part, made it. How did I make it? I don't remember having made it. I don't know anything about making bricks. Did I make it when I was asleep, or how?"

Debsus—"My friend, I don't know how or when you made it. I only know that the brick labelled 'CapitalistIC system' is said by some great man to have been made by society. I know also that you are part of society; therefore you must have helped make it. What I do know is that my heart bleeds for you; that I would help you destroy that brick."

Workmanus—"You're right; let's destroy it. But say: 'Who threw it? What's the use of destroying that brick and letting the one who threw it roam around and perhaps throw another? If I made that brick, I didn't throw it; that I'll swear to."

Debsus—"Oh, yes you did, my friend. I have been told so by men who have read books wherein it was shown that bricks like that are thrown by those whom the brick hits. So it must be so."

Workmanus—"Say, you're great as a talker; but what I'd like to know is WHO THREW that brick, and if I did when and how did I?"

Debsus picks up brick and says—"It don't say how you did or when you did on the brick, and I can't tell you. But what a brutal-looking thing it is. Do you see this particular corner? That's marked 'corporate greed.' That's a very dirty looking corner, and this other corner marked 'judicial tyranny;' isn't that nasty looking? You should destroy the whole brick." (Looks at Workmanus and goes on saying) "Doesn't your head hurt you? My sympathy goes out to you, my friend. You are the victim of adverse circumstances, and need pity. My heart wells with pity for you. (Starts to walk away, saying) "Don't let that brick lie around."

Workmanus—"Hold on!" (Debs stops). "I wish I could talk like you. What I can't understand, though, is if I helped make that brick and helped throw it, when and how did I make it, and when and how did I throw it? Can't you tell me that? I think some one else must have thrown it. But I am weak from loss of blood and the hurt of the wound, so please tell me how I am to prevent myself from making and throwing such bricks in the future, and also to prevent others from doing so. You have not been hurt as I have, and can think more clearly than I, or at least you should be able to."

Debsus—"My friend, I cannot tell you how you have made or thrown that brick. All I know is that some one has said that such things happen; why, they said so I don't know, but they must be right. My heart bleeds for you though, and I would make it impossible for you to be hurt, and if you go away from bricks to the Far West you cannot get hurt there. Come, I will lead you."

Workmanus—"Say, that's a good idea; but hold on, some one out there may make a brick. I may, not knowing it; and then I'd be in the same fix as I am here. If I made that brick, somebody must have hypnotized me while I did, and kept me hypnotized while I threw it; I wouldn't throw it knowingly. I think some one must have been interested in making that brick and throwing it. It didn't make itself; neither would I do it freely of my own will. Some one, or set of men, must have used me for a fool, and as you know so much about that brick you must know who made me make it, and who made me throw it. Who was it?"

Debsus—"My friend, you wrong me. It is not the class of men but the system you should seek to destroy. The brick is what hurt you; destroy that."

Workmanus—"The brick of itself is nothing; some one, some class of men, must have used it. You say I have made and used it to my own hurt. Tell me how and when I did so that I may prevent such acts on my part in the future. If others made and used it, put me on to them. Tell me something that means sense. Your bleeding heart I am grateful for, your statement of what an ugly, awful, horrible thing the brick is, I appreciate. But tell me if society, of which I am a part, made that brick and threw it, why should it do so? By whose direction does it do so? It is not by mine, that you can gamble on. Tell me who it is that directs and controls society? Some one, some class of men, who profit by such bricks, must. If I fight the 'system,' as you say, won't I find men, the class of men, who profit by it, up and ready to defend it and fight me? Who and what is that class? This brick is a thing, not a cause of itself; who causes the brick to be made and thrown? Ay?"

Debsus draws himself up, looks with pity on Workmanus, and says—"My friend, we do not war with men or individuals."

Slow curtain, also slow music to the tune of "Arrah, go on, you're only fooling."

(The End.)

LETTER BOX.

Offhand Answerstos Inquirers.

"Reader," New York.—The statistics of the Labor Bureau of this State can be relied on only in the sense that any of the other official statistics of capital can. They may serve the purpose of showing how bad things are even according to the doctored figures.

H. W., Detroit, Mich.:—

First—For membership at large in the S. L. P., communicate with National Executive Committee, 184 William street.

Second—For membership at large in S. T. & L. A., communicate to Secretary of the S. T. & L. A., 64 E. 4th street.

Third—We know of no way to ascertain the total amount of English capital invested in America. To form some idea of it, you have to read the papers carefully on the reports of corporations and stock and bond holders' meetings.

Fourth—Before the "Crime of '73" there were a large number of trade unions in the land. Waiters, printers, carpenters, bricklayers, engineers, railroad men generally, cigarmakers, etc., etc.

Fifth—The celebrated decision of Judge Van Brunt acquitting capitalists was not rendered in either the Buffalo or Brooklyn strike; it was rendered in '91 on the occasion of an accident in the New York Central Railroad tunnel whereby 9 men perished owing to the cars being heated with stoves and not steam, according to law. If you read THE PEOPLE carefully you would know this exactly and all about it.

W. Smith, Brooklyn American Branch—Explain more fully your plan; can not yet understand it.

F. B., Bartonville, Ill.—We don't know that there is any rule with the United Mine Workers that a member may not join the S. T. & L. A.; and, on the other hand, the S. T. & L. A. does not forbid any miner, affiliated with it, to remain with or join the United Mine Workers. As far as the S. T. & L. A. knows, there is nothing to prevent such duality.

But the S. T. & L. A. is of the opinion that the miners have nothing to gain and everything to lose from continued membership in the United Mine Workers. Consequently, the best thing is to pull out altogether and join the S. T. & L. A. In that way no dues will go to support fakir leaders, and the market price of these will fall when it is known they have no followers, i.e., nothing to deliver;—the which in itself clears the labor atmosphere.

B. J. H., Philadelphia.—The matter can not be published. More than once you must have read in these columns that announcements of "drawings," "prizes," etc., are rejected. To publish such matter would be to incur the risk of having the paper suppressed at the Post Office. It might be done 100 or 1,000 times without risk, and yet one time too often, with bad consequences.

John C. Mills, Canton, O.—The sort of money you are after cannot be before the Socialist Republic is established. To talk of that sort of money now is as brainless as to talk of raising roses and strawberries in midwinter. The money of a social system is the capstone of the edifice. To get Socialist money, you must not waste time at the top, but work at the foundation.

HERE AND NOW.

[By ROSE CADOGAN in Sidney, Australia, Worker.

Never mind the bye-and bye,
Think you of the Here and Now;
Never tow'rd the future sigh;
Never to that fetish bow.

Here the paradise could be,
Earthly gardens full of fruit;
We could till them, you and me;
We could watch the tendrils shoot.

All who wish could speed the work,
Sow a tiny plant or seed;
Danger doth in waiting lurk,
For our fellows are in need.

Now the time to clear the soil;
Now the season for our plough;
Weeds prolific wait our toil;
Comrades want our aid just now.

Not the future—sister, brother,
Do not to that mirage bow;
This our moment—there's none other
Wants our help so much as Now.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Brother Jonathan—What lovely songs these Salvation Army people do sing!

Uncle Sam—I'll agree with you if you say: "some of these Salvation Army people." I've heard such horrid sounds from so many of them that I'm hardly ready to ascribe good music to the whole crew.

B. J.—Yes, that's so; and what good people they are!

U. S.—In that I'm still less ready to agree. I would hardly admit that "some" are good. If there are any real good among them, they must be mighty few. I at least know of none such.

B. J.—That surprises me!

U. S.—Why should it?

B. J.—Why, I know that they go about helping the miserable, redeeming the drunkards, raising the fallen women.

U. S. (smiling)—What is better, to help you from falling, or to help throw you down, and then go down on my knees to where you have been thrown, and, slobbering all over you, sing songs to you, and then help you up just a little bit? Which is better?

B. J.—Of course, to help me from falling.

U. S.—Now, these Salvation Army people don't do that, but help to throw you down.

B. J. (surprised)—You don't say!?

U. S.—I DO say. And I'll show you.

B. J.—Yes, please.

U. S.—Is knowledge light or darkness?

B. J.—Light.

U. S.—In the dark a man stumbles, but in the light he can see his way.

B. J.—Certainly.

U. S.—Knowledge being light, he who has knowledge can see his way?

B. J.—Yes, certainly.

U. S.—If you want to help a man to see his way and not stumble would you surround him in darkness or light?

B. J.—In light, of course.

U. S.—And if you don't, you help him to stumble and fall?

B. J.—Just so.

U. S.—Now, if I show you that these Salvation Army people try to surround the people with darkness instead of light, with ignorance instead of knowledge, my case is proven?

B. J.—Yes.

U. S.—Well, they not only abstain from informing the people upon the inevitableness of poverty under capitalism, but they oppose all attempts of Socialists to teach the poor this fact and to teach them the way out; but they teach them, on the contrary, to look for better conditions from their individual conduct only and from heaven. Now, you know that a man may be an angel of goodness, and sweetness, and sobriety and purity, but if he has no capital he must go work for a capitalist——

B. J.—And get skinned——

U. S.—Yes. And that that capitalist will try to make more and more; and will get in machinery that will displace hands and that will displace that good sober, sweet man——

B. J.—Just so.

U. S.—To tell a man that all that is needed for him to get along well is to be good and sober, is a bit of hypocrisy and pharisaism, because it is to make him help to keep up the existing system that is bound to disgrace him more and more.

B. J.—Well, I never looked at it in that light.

U. S.—But these Salvation Army people do worse yet.

B. J.—Worse yet?

U. S.—Yes. They make the poor look to heaven, and in that way leave the earth to the capitalists; and then they levy blackmail on the capitalists and make them believe they also will go to paradise after having made a hell of this world. With the money they thus get they plaster up the wounds they thus inflict upon the poor; and in that way they prolong and perpetuate misery.

B. J.—Well, I declare!

U. S.—But that's not yet all——

B. J.—What, worse yet?

U. S.—Yes; worse yet. The men whom they keep as corporals and such in food and clothes, they set to work at low wages. I know a member of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners——

B. J.—That labor fakir McGuire's organization?

U. S.—The same. I know a Salvation Army member of that organization who goes about saying that $1.50 a day is enough for any workingman——

B. J.—The divvil you say!

U. S.—Now, in whose employ do you imagine such a fellow to be; whose work do you imagine he is doing?

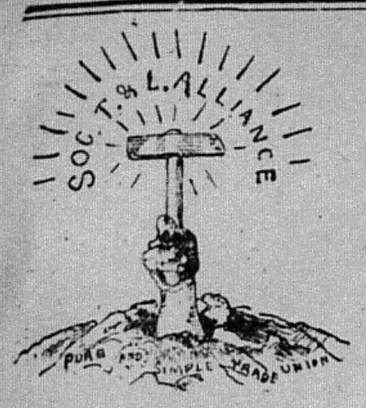
B. J.—No doubt, the devil's——

U. S.—Or the capitalist class's, which means the same thing.

A daughter of the late Austin Corbin, millionaire, is bringing suit against the executors of her father's will on the ground of mismanagement. It is clear that some one is making or trying to make his "original capital" out of that estate.

The S. T. & L. A. is booming. At the last session of the G. E. B., nine charter applications came in, besides an extensive and promiseful mail.

The numerous calls that have come in for the New Bedford speech "What Means This Strike?" published in these columns a few weeks ago, has determined the National Executive Committee to reprint it in pamphlet form. It can be had at the Labor News Company, 64 E. 4th street, this city. Single copies, 5 cents; 10 copies, 30 cents; 50 copies, $1,25; 100 copies, $2.50.



A "VICTORY"

That Portends and Foreshadows Speedy and Crushing Defeat.

There is in this city a cigarmanufacturing firm of Seidenberg & Co. In that shop there worked until about two weeks ago, three sets of men. The largest of the three sets consisted of unorganized men; the second larger consisted of International Union men; the third set, about 32 strong, was made up of some of the members of the newly organized Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance Cigarmakers' Union, the Pioneer Cigarmakers. The union scale was not paid in that shop; people worked for such wages as they could get.

Such was the condition of things when on Monday morning, the 14th instant, upon going to work, the Pioneer men were confronted with pickets of International officers informing them that there was a strike at Seidenberg & Co., and they should not go up. The Pioneer men were astounded; they determined to find out; went into the shop; found that a strike had been declared by the bulk of the shop under International leadership; but neither they nor those unorganized employees who were not consulted knew what the strike was for. The strike had been declared without any demands being made to the firm. To ascertain the cause of the strike the Pioneer men appointed a committee to go to the Strike Committee and inquire, and offer assistance if the strike was for higher wages. The Strike Committee, through its chairman, Isaac Bennett, refused to hear the Pioneer Committee, although the strikers themselves wanted to hear them. Bennett called the Pioneers scabs and hammered them down and out of the room. The Pioneers then sought information elsewhere. From some of the strikers they were told the fight was not for wages but to expel the Pioneers; from others they heard other causes; the International officers, however, gave it out unofficially that the strike was against a reduction.

In this confusion the Pioneers dropped their work, falling back upon their own union for instruction. End of the week the Pioneer Union met and adopted the following resolution and course of action:

"WHEREAS, Last Monday, the 14th inst., the employees of the cigar manufacturing firm of Seidenberg & Co., consisting of members of the International Cigarmakers' Union and of others, who are not members, working on the Seidenberg floors of that firm, went out on strike without any demands being presented to the firm by the officers of the International Cigarmakers' Union, who are running this strike; and

"WHEREAS, The members of this Pioneer Cigarmakers' Union (Local Alliance 141, of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, affiliated with D. A. 49, S. T. & L. A.) who were at work on the Kelly floor of that same firm, although not on strike, or consulted, or affected by the strike, left their work early on that same day, and have continued out ever since; and

"WHEREAS, A committee of the said members of the Pioneer Cigarmakers' Union sought to confer with those having the strike in charge, but were hammered down and grossly insulted by the chairman, Isaac Bennett, and were otherwise prevented by officers of the International Cigarmakers' Union, said Bennett included, although the striking workmen were willing to hear our committee; and

"WHEREAS, The said members of the Pioneer Cigarmakers' Union are thus left entirely in the dark as to the situation, all the more as the statements are very conflicting on the causes of the strike; therefore be it

"RESOLVED, That this Pioneer Cigarmakers' Union, in special session assembled, this 18th day of March, request D. A. 49, S. T. & L. A., to call a mass meeting of all the employees of the firm of Seidenberg & Co., those out on strike and those out without being on strike, for to-morrow (Saturday), afternoon, at some convenient place uptown to discuss the situation and ascertain from the employees out on strike whether the further continuance of the members of the Pioneer Cigarmakers' Union, out of the shop, would improve the chances of success of their striking fellow workmen."

The meeting herein asked for was called by D. A. 49 to meet on the next day, Saturday, at 3 p. m., at Bohemian Hall, 73d street, between 1st and 2d avenues, the immediate neighborhood of the strike. The meeting was advertised by 1,000 handbills thoroughly distributed among the strikers, and also in the N. Y. "Volks-Zeitung" of that day, containing the above resolutions. At that meeting not one of the cigarmakers, out on strike, put in an appearance: MR. BENNETT, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, HAD ORDERED THE STRIKERS NOT TO ATTEND.

The fact that the strike was conducted under fishy and false pretences was becoming clearer. But although it had become clear to the Pioneer Alliance that the International Strike Committee had something to conceal, and that its only object was to oust the Pioneers, the Pioneers did not yet decide to go back to their places. They had it in their power to return to the places which they had voluntarily dropped without even being consulted by the strikers; and they had it in their power to fill the whole shop from top to bottom,—a power that they had a right to exercise seeing that they knew the strike was not against a reduction but against them, and that whatever reductions had actually taken place the Strike Committee knew full well it could not redress. The Pioneers yielded to the sentiment of those who had been deceived into the belief that the strike was a bona fide one against a reduction, and that to return to their work would have the appearance of scabbing. To this sentiment the Pioneers yielded. The strike is ended; the Pioneers have lost their places; the "victory" was won—by the strikers? No!—it was won at the expense of the strikers by the International officers, who imposed themselves upon the strikers as a Strike Committee and picket men.

The statement made by the "victors" themselves shows that the only thing gained was just what the Pioneers knew was the only object of the Strike Committee, and that other people were too blind to see, namely, the exclusion of the Pioneers: their floor is to be closed. For the rest, it is expressly stated that the real "reduction" complained of is not changed; and under the generality of uniform prices, the fact sticks out that INTERNATIONAL MEN ARE GOING TO TAKE THE VERY JOBS THAT THEY CALLED THE PIONEERS SCABS FOR; for the rest, the bona fide strikers were sold out.

Near-sighted people may call that a "victory." It is the herald of a crushing defeat to come. The Pioneer Alliance has lost a skirmish, but it lost it, not to the International officers, it lost it in deference to a false sentiment that these officers had created upon false representations. That game can be played only once. The very fact of its having been played will next time and from now on strengthen the attitude of the future aggressiveness of the Pioneer men. The deception can only redound to our favor.

The whole incident helps to show the urgency of bringing order into and purifying the industrial movement. Such a state of things as that which allows a lot of impecunious labor fakirs to play fast and loose with the wages of workers, while the fakirs get $3 or $5 a day for Strike Committee and picket work and live in clover through the misery they throw workers into by holding out false promises through a strike and then yielding, cannot, must not continue.

This first defeat of the Pioneers may justly be considered a first victory. Henceforth their path is clear, to clear out the rascal gang of the International Union's labor fakir officers of all degrees in this city.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Latest Move to Solve the Labor Problem.

To THE PEOPLE:—The latest capitalistic invention of a sugar-coated pill to be used as a means for side-tracking and misleading the working class, is in the shape of one to be known as "The People's Institute." This "philanthropic and practical institute" has made its debut on the 17th of March, when, in the evening, its "inaugural meeting" was held at Cooper Union, and its principles and aims were expounded by such "prominent friends of labor" as the Rev. Dr. R. Heber Newton and Samuel Gompers.

Both our "friends" laid a great deal of stress upon the honesty and industriousness of our workingmen as well as that of our capitalists, and they wished it particularly understood that the misfortunes of the one was not through any fault or wrongdoing of the other.

Mr. Gompers, who was met with a shower of hisses and "Make your train for Pittsburg!" when the chairman introduced him, had chosen for his theme "Equality." He dwelt at some length upon the fact that the Declaration of Independence holds that all men are created equal, and said: "If two men got into the same difficulty and were arrested; one was a workingman and the other a capitalist, and both were placed under $5,000 bail each; what difficulty has the millionaire in securing his bail; but on the other hand, what chance has the average man in this audience of securing such a bond? None, and is sent to jail. Is this equality?!! Is this equality?!! . . . Equality means the right to live without first finding an opportunity. (A voice from the audience: "What does that mean?")

On such lines as these Mr. Gompers interpreted "Equality." The audience evidently tired of him and became impatient, and occasional shouts of "Don't miss your train for Pittsburg," were heard through the hall.

Mr. Gompers was extremely careful, however, not to suggest any means by which to bring about a change in existing inequalities, except that in closing he said that he heartily indorsed the movement of "The People's Institute," and that "while there is no possibility of ever avoiding inequality altogether, I don't doubt but that the work undertaken will avoid it, at least to some extent."

The Managing Director of "The People's Institute," Mr. Charles Sprague Smith, then explained how "The People's Institute" will bring about a change of conditions. He said we cannot look to the poor people for a change without the co-operation of the rich.

This solution has not even the merit of novelty; it is a hoary-headed, exploded Utopian notion. It is grounded on the following "reasoning":

First—The interests of a highway robber and his victim are mutual, and their feeling can be made friendly to each other—if through any circumstance they chance to "clasp hands," their thoughts will quite naturally run in the same direction. That is to say, while the victim would be planning a means to escape being robbed, the robber would be planning a scheme by which he could best rob, he being within such close range of his victim, they will both re-adjust their plans and come to a mutual agreement.

Secondly—That a certain set of men, who perform the rôle of highway robbers, and now undertake to organize an institution that has for its object the bringing together and clasping of hands of all the thieves in a community with their victims, with a view to maintain between them a feeling of friendship and to make their interests mutual, would start an institution in interest, not of themselves but of their victims!

And this sort of thing passes for logic!

New York, Borough of Brooklyn, March 19. J. M. M.

Milwaukee, Wis.

Comrade J. Rummel, 310 18th street, is authorized agent. All subscribers in arrears are requested to settle with him at once.

SNAP-SHOTS.

That Hit Whomsoever The Cap Fits, Whether they Cry "Hit" or Not.

A MAGIC WORD.

The word freedom has done wizard service to the modern slave owner. Not with the eyes and ears only has this wizard word played its nimble fingered tricks; bare feet, empty stomachs, vacuous pockets and naked backs have been filled or covered for a moment of their owner's delusion by this modern prestidigitateur. Yet every letter of the siren word has been an armory of whips of iron or of scorpions for the deluded fetish worshipers of the United States.

* * *

IS THERE A HOLE IN YOUR POCKET?

Instead of producing only a surplus of tin cans to be tied to his own tail in the shape of new capital for further exploitation, the surplus under Socialism will go into the common fund for yielding more leisure, more culture, and a better civilization. Our consolation is that capitalism is doing the better part of its own undoing. Like a greedy boy I once saw stealing all his comrades' marbles; he never reckoned on the frail nature of human pockets; he left a long trail of stolen marbles behind him, which the other fellows picked up with less exertion than the naughty boy put forth in running away with an empty pocket. The pockets of the Socialistic era will not be so large, but they will be stronger and better filled; and, what is better than fullness, whatever gets into them will be our own.

* * *

THE SAD MAN.

The modern wage slave is a serious man, and well may he be! A more hopeless horizon never encircled a class than that which frowns all around him. He dances sometimes when he is drunk; he sings sometimes when he is in church; though in the saloon he doesn't know what he is dancing about, and in the church he seldom knows what he is singing about. The man who tries to introduce a little sun fun into the subject of economics into the sad life of the laborer ought to be pardoned even when he fails.

* * *

WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH OUR NOSES?

It never has happened before that the whole of men's lives was demanded in return for the privilege of picking up crumbs and guts. If we were all merely beggars and rich men we could lie down in the sun when we had begged a bellyfull, and the rich man would feel kindly towards us for having filled us, for we always take a personal interest in and have a kindly feeling towards those whom we feed. But now the wage earners' siesta means a dollar out of the capitalist's pocket. The capitalist can only put a coat on him by taking it off me. I must work and I must want or the present system falls to pieces. Everybody is interested in the proletarian's nose being pressed well down on the grindstone, and the alternative before us is to either do away with our economic noses or our economic grindstone. I prefer the latter course, and when we do away with the grindstone of wagery we will doubtless find other and better use for our noses.

* * *

THE CAPITALIST ON THE BLOCK.

Though the capitalist proudly points to organized labor as his work and demands three-quarters of all labor's product perpetually for it, yet he insists that those who organize the laborers themselves are idle, loafing scoundrels, who deserve nothing but injunctions and jails. Strip the capitalist of his courts and guns, and his dominion over the instruments of bread and clothes making; strip him as the feudal landlords were stripped when they became traitorous and dangerous to the commonwealth, and what is he fit to organize? Put all the great owners of mills and factories apart by themselves, and it is little they will add to the inventions of the nineteenth or twentieth centuries; little to the lore, little to the literature, little to the virtue, little to the good example which the world stands in need of.

* * *

THE GAME OF WAR.

There is a dash of fatalism in the make-up of every gambler. And in all communities where the gambler is in the ascendant, whether it be a fatalist fanatic in the Soudan or a fatalist egotist at Waterloo, his followers who take the chances of life and death under his standard have the cruel frenzy of the fatalist in the hour of victory or the resignation of the fatalist in the hour of defeat. What is true in military war is also true in economic war. The possibilities of one lucky moment in the heat of battle is so tremendous, what gambler in fickle fortunes would not take his hazard in the game of war?

A deep ditch had been dug for local purposes by roadmakers on the piece of Belgian ground that a few days afterwards became the field of Waterloo. Into that peaceful ditch, in the supreme moment of Napoleon's fortunes, the Imperial Guard blindly plunged to death and into that lowly ditch they drew the empire with them. Can generals and soldiers and captains of industry, playing at the great game of war, whether economic war or otherwise, fail to be fatalists?

With the first issue of next April, April 3, the price of THE PEOPLE will be reduced from $1 to 50 cents a year; six months 25 cents; single copies 2 cts.

To Jewish Sections and Branches.

Wilshire's leaflet, "Why American Workingmen Should Be Socialists," has been translated into Jewish, and can now be had at $1.25 per 1,000 or $1.50, if sent by mail or express. Address all orders to

LABOR NEWS CO.,
64 East 4th street, New York.

MASSACHUSETTS ITEMS.

The State of Affairs in New Bedford and in Haverhill.

WORCESTER, Mass., March 21.—We were "delivering our message." We were "face to face with the proletariat."

If there was ever a doubt of the necessity of the Alliance, it vanished when the Alliance was put to the test at New Bedford.

As far as the working organization in New Bedford is concerned, matters stand in this way: We have thrown down the gauntlet and declared war to the death on the fakir. They will be forced to take it up. As the days go on matters become more complicated. Let me try and straighten out the tangle so as to see how things stand.

First—The striking textile workers are not affiliated with any national organization. Mr. Hart, president of the Weavers' Union, is trying to form a New England federation.

Second—Gompers, with an eye to the "per capita," sends two of his satellites, Mills and Tracy, to capture the weavers and spinners, etc., for the A. F. of Hell. Mills talks glowingly of the National Textile Union, a paper organization since our unions pulled out, and joined the Alliance. Except for a union in Georgia, with about 20 members, the N. T. U. does not exist except in the Gompers—Mills imagination. Samuel Ross, of the Spinners, is leaning towards Sammy.

Third—A textile worker named Connolly, of New Bedford, of whom I have reason to believe is an honest man, has organized the majority of the textile workers in Lowell. It was out of that organization that Mills and Tracy were thrown by the indignant workers of Lowell. One of our party members, an Irish-American named Kinsella, was restrained from knocking the rascals into the street.

Fourth—An organization known as the United Textile Workers, that does not amount to much.

Fifth—Our own. The S. T. & L. A. with four locals and a district in New Bedford, besides various other locals in the east, notably in Providence and Philadelphia.

Between all those organizations the fur is flying, and things are coming our way in two-pair chaises, because, backed by a political party, we hold the strategic position. Our companions are determined fighters, know their men, and are carrying the war into Africa all the time.

Right into the midst of all this turmoil marches the "Noble leader," E. V. Debs. And, of course, makes an exhibition of himself, as the following true story will show. He spoke in New Bedford, March 11th, and "organized" a branch of the S. D.—all textile workers. In the course of his speech he warned them against "following leaders," "depend on themselves and principle," "principles, not men," etc.

He was seen that night by Samuel Ross, who realized that he cannot get elected on the Republican ticket again owing to the exposure of his rascality by the Socialists. The result of the conference with Debs was that gentleman performed another of his magnificent somersaults by appearing at another meeting the next evening and telling his perplexed audience, "stand by your leader, Samuel Ross," "he is a noble general," "he will lead you to victory," etc. I said at the outset he made an exhibition of himself. Bah! he showed himself a fraud. He locked arms with the fakir; he stood knee-deep in his slime. Who is that "noble general?" What does his "noble generalship" consist of. He has led the textile workers into battle, fortified them with a wooden soup shanty, with pennies in their clothes to fight the capitalist in his palace with his millions, while he gets elected on the mill owners' ticket, sees the fines bill virtually declared unconstitutional, lies back in his seat and says nothing, although a member of the majority, party and watches one of his hungry soldiers marched to jail for 60 days for attempting to get back some of the money he was "fined" of. That is what "noble generalship" consists of, according to Mr. Debs. But Mr. Ross has paid back the debt he owes Mr. Debs. Five days later, the 16th, at the next meeting of the Debsomaniacs he appeared and ENROLLED HIMSELF A MEMBER OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRACY.—in other words, he did what fakirs always do. When we smoke them out into the clear, the admit Socialism, but go to a place where their Socialism won't hurt.

There and then he made a speech saying he "believed in Socialism, but not the narrow Socialism of the S. L. P." Of course he does not believe in the S. L. P. We are too narrow for frauds like him. He also said he did not believe in our "union wrecking policy." How we wreck unions will be found out when the next New Bedford strike is conducted under the auspices of the S. T. & L. A. This step of Mr. Ross is good. His body makes the cap stone of a temple of fraud. Just gaze on the Debsion collection of Hintons, Barondesses and Willards, of Boston labor fakir fame: Miller, Carey, etc., etc.

Verily the "American movement" is getting on great. Now that Mr. Ross has joined the S. D., what about his seat in the Massachusetts Legislature? If he is a Socialist he can't be a republican, and therefore should resign. If he is a Republican, he can't be a Socialist; therefore he should leave the S. D. But then we should not be too harsh. I presume Mr. Ross is BROAD. To cap the whole farce, Harriet Pickering, whose peculiar virtues brings a smile even to the tear-stained cheeks of the strikers' wives, after emitting one terrific shriek for "Christian Socialism," joined the noble band of S. D.'s. Surely the ship of "American Socialism" is loaded down to the gunwales with the most peculiar collection of freaks and crooks that ever came down the pike.

Before the ides of March in 1900 that storm-beaten craft, with Harriet Pickering and such fighting for the helm, will go bumping on to the harbor of Bryanism.

I left New Bedford for Haverhill with instructions from the N. E. C. to investigate the Carey trouble. I interviewed Mr. Carey. He was very surly. Refused at first to answer questions; later he gave four reasons for hauling down the flag of the S. L. P.

First—He objected to our treatment of "good comrade Gordon."

Second—He did not like our tactics.

Third—We did not stand up for the "Appeal to Reason."

Fourth—We did not have a "fair press."

In a few words I showed him how fallacious these reasons were. Then I challenged him to meet me in debate before his constituents whom he had betrayed; that I intended to brand him as a traitor, and would give him this chance of defending himself. He said he would meet me if his branch would permit him. This, although there was no branch in existence at the time. The S. D. was not organized for four days later. I demanded his resignation. It had been stolen. He refused to resign. I then proceeded to show him up. With Comrade Goldstein, who, without one cent of recompense, came on from Boston to help me, we billed the town in most approved style announcing a debate between Carey and myself. In newspaper interviews and signed statements I branded him as a traitor. At the City Hall meeting I finished the job. The people of Haverhill now are aware that he is not a S. L. P. man, that we have washed our hands of him, and consequently no matter where he lands from now on, the S. L. P. will not be tarnished thereby.

Carey's record and doings in brief is as follows:

Populist stump speaker in 1893; Cassonite in 1895. Joined the party about that time; asked Haverhill to give him credentials for the National Convention in 1896; went there; stayed one day; came back pleading sickness. Reported that the people who were in that convention "were all right, and knew their biz." Commenced to lend a willing ear to the Casson crowd, although Casson was stumping for Bryan. Fought underhanded against all our progressive Comrades in Boston. Secured complete control of the Section because he was the only speaker there. Lied about THE PEOPLE. Kept all the speakers of the S. L. P. out of town by poisoning the minds of the Comrades with opposition slanders; result, neither Mrs. Avery, Carless, Brophy, or any of our speakers were heard. Caused a motion to be passed stopping the circulation of THE PEOPLE in Haverhill. When the State ticket was presented for endorsement, moved that all be endorsed except the head of the ticket, Brophy. Nominated and elected Councilman; the board stood 7 Republicans, 6 Democrats; voted for a Democratic president of the board, thus causing a tie. Gave as an excuse he was the oldest member of the board, even if he was a capitalist, and therefore should be elected. Finally accepted the position himself, although ordered by the Section not to do so.

Has taken a ridiculous stand in the board, claiming that the "working people pay the taxes, not the capitalist." A position directly opposite to ours. Had hops given from time to time where the young people could rise to a higher intellectual level dancing the light fantastic. Scoffed at our educational work, calling us "sky-en-tific" Socialists, and finally finished all in this way: A dance was given at the Section on the last Tuesday in February. A stranger came to one of our local Comrades and said: "I hear you people are going to smash up to-morrow night." Our Comrade said, "Nonsense; I know nothing about it." "It is so, all right," replied the stranger. So it was.

The Konikow woman came on from Boston to speak at the racket, ostensibly, but really to pull the necessary wires. They saw they had the chance of their life inasmuch as the Secretary of the Section, who was fighting the gang, had to go to New Hampshire to work for a week. In his absence everything was easy for them. The word was passed around amongst the select few to be around the following night. Without one moment's notice, and with but 16 out of 78 members present, a motion was passed to send back the charter of the S. L. P. In this characteristic way was the flag of the S. L. P. hauled down by James Carey, the first traitor to the working class elected on the Socialist ticket. It is more than significant that our first traitor should be a James Carey.

When I was a boy in Dublin, Ireland, if we wanted to call a man a name that would be meaner than any thing else in history, from Judas Iscariot to Benedict Arnold, we Dubliners would call him a "Carey," after the notorious Phœnix Park informer, who, after leading a lot of poor dupes into a murderous scheme, then betrayed them to the hangman, for which deed he was followed all over the world, until finally he was shot dead for his treachery in South Africa. As I looked at the James Carey the II. in Haverhill last Sunday week, then turned and gazed at his poor dupes sitting around him whom he had misled and betrayed, the parallel was complete. He was a "CAREY" BY NAME AND A CAREY BY NATURE.

In a disjointed way I have told of the "American Carey." It would need columns to tell it all. We may safely ring down the curtain on our first traitor. He will land with the Bryan crowd in 1900, if not earlier, but we will not suffer thereby. The working people of Haverhill will know, do know, that we have cast him entirely adrift from our movement. This whole incident points out two things that should be taken to heart by every member of the S. L. P.

First—That by foolish toleration we allowed this fellow to go as far as he did; so far, that were it not for prompt action he might have done us incalculable harm.

Second—That the Debs movement is doing us good, the only good that a freak and unclean arrangement like it can do, namely, pulling out of our ranks the crook, traitor or rascal who might be within our ranks without our knowledge. Draw the lines clearer; buckle on the armor tighter.

T. A. HICKEY.

* * *

This account should be supplemented by what occurred recently in New York. Mr. Carey came to the city to "fight the Socialists"; he was taken in charge by the Debs men, i. e., Polish Jew Anarchists. Thalia Theater was hired, and Carey was advertised and boomed without stint. At the meeting there were not 100 people; the emptiness was immense, and he was jeered. He and his associates looked like drowned rats.

Scandinavians, So. Brooklyn, N. Y.

Scandinavians residing in South Brooklyn, N. Y., and who would be willing to participate in the organization of a Scandinavian South Brooklyn Branch of the S. L. P., are requested to communicate with Comrade C. Petersen, 280 49th street, South Brooklyn, N. Y.

A KNOCK-DOWN.

(Continued from Page 1.)

class-conscious political party that demands the land on which and the tools with which to work to be placed unconditionally in the hands of the working class.

For the above reasons we consider your Legislative Committee "to be an injury to the workers," and we decline to give you our assistance.

We further believe that you, who claim we should not debate politics in unions, ought to be the last to ask for such endorsement, which will certainly cause a political debate.

Fraternally yours,

The Committee:
AUGUST PLANTHABER,
LODZING,
CHARLES BARKHAUSEN, Secy.
Local Union No. 164, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.
New York, Feb. 28, 1898.

TOWARD THE 100,000.

(Continued from Page 1.)

is a curse to every one except the capitalist. Under Socialism, the introduction of machinery would be a blessing to every person in the Republic, for as soon as it were possible to produce the means of life with but two and one-half hours of work per day, the working day would be cut down to two and one-half hours.

But how is this change from Capitalism to Socialism to be brought about? By the Socialist Labor party, which is a political party, grounded exclusively upon the class interests of the working class. We assert that so long as the capitalist class has the political power in the nation, so long will the working class be outraged. In the past we have elected capitalists to office, and they have used their offices to still further enslave us. The Socialistic Labor party asserts that it is folly to expect the capitalists, who rob us in the factories, to pass laws beneficial to us in their Congress or give us just verdicts in their Courts. The aim of the Socialist Labor party is to organize the working class into one compact economic and political body, march to the ballot box as one compact body, vote as one compact body and for workingmen alone, and keep it up until the banner of Socialism waves over every city hall and legislative body in the nation, and casts its shadows athwart the White House at Washington. Having done this, having obtained control of the political power of the nation, having a Socialist Congress, and Socialist President, we will inaugurate the SOCIALIST REPUBLIC, a republic in which he who wishes to live by work shall not lack the opportunity to produce all that he requires in order to live, while he who wishes to live without work shall be given the privilege of starving.

And now, fellow workingmen of Maryland, let us call your attention to a new menace to our liberties. During the last few years the capitalist class has detected the growth of the Socialist Labor party. In it they see their own downfall. In it they see the latent power that soon will overthrow the system of robbery by which they live in riotous luxury while we have not ever the necessaries of life. They see this, see it clearly, and all over the world they are attempting to deprive us of the last right we have—the right to HOLD OFFICE and THE RIGHT TO VOTE. This assault on these last rights comes disguised under many masks. They generally have assumed in the United States a property qualification clause. In South Carolina a couple of years ago more than thirty thousand workingmen were disfranchised by this means. In some States, however, tion clause for voting, still they have attempted to keep us from holding office by attaching a property qualification clause to that. They begin with a small qualification, and then stealthily increase it, and the present capitalist legislature at Annapolis has made itself a party to this conspiracy by inserting in the new charter for the city of Baltimore a clause that raises the property-qualification for the office of Mayor, so that after the charter becomes operative no one can hold that office who does not own taxable property valued at two thousand dollars. This is but the beginning although there is no property qualification. They will stealthily raise this qualification, they will attach it to other offices, until, if the working class does not rise in its strength while it has the right to vote and the right to hold office, the time will come that property and property alone will not only be the qualification for holding office, but the qualification for voting as well.

In closing, let us say that Washington has been selected as the seat of the State Committee for Maryland and the District of Columbia. The committee is contemplating systematic and thorough agitation and organization throughout its territory, and earnestly requests that any of the working class desiring further information of the movement, address the Secretary.

For the State Committee,
JULIAN PIERCE, Secy.
101 G street, N. W., Washington, D.C.

S. L. P. Supplies.

Constitutions in English, German and Polish (with platform)	50c. per 100
Constitution in Jewish (without platform)	40c. per 100
Due cards	40c. per 100
Application cards	40c. per 100
Emblem buttons (stud or pin) per dozen	25c.
Metal emblem pins (gilt) per dozen	30c.

When ordering supplies, enclose the cash; it takes time to keep credit accounts, send out bills (perhaps a number of times before collection is made), and all this time, postage, and effort may be employed to a better purpose.

The emblem buttons and the pins are not send out on credit under any circumstances. They are sold by the N. Y. State Committee, which committee keeps no credit accounts of any kind.

Address all orders to: Henry Kuhn, 184 William street, New York, N. Y.

Daily People Minor Fund.

Previously acknowledged	$2,182.63
Sec. Mt. Vernon, N. Y.	5.00
H. Hofte, Chicago, Ill.	50
Total	$2,188.13

HENRY KUHN, Fin. Secy.

From April 1, 1898,

the Subscription price of THE PEOPLE will be reduced to

50 Cents a Year,

6 months, 25 Cents. **Single copies, 2 Cents.**

Subscribers, who have paid in advance, will get their terms prolonged or can have two copies sent till subscription expires. In case the latter is wanted, INFORM US.

Subscribers, who on April 1st are in arrears, **will be stricken.**

Comrades! Here is your chance to enlarge the circulation of THE PEOPLE. **Use the opportunity!**

THE DAILY PEOPLE
$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to March 23rd, 1898.

$4,575.

☞ **Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.**

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE.
184 William St., N. Y.

Third Annual Spring Festival

OF THE

PROGRESSIVE WORKINGMEN SOCIETIES
of North New York,

at EBLING'S CASINO, 156th Street and St. Anns Avenue,
on SATURDAY Evening, April 2d, 1898.

TICKETS, admitting Gentleman and Lady.....25 Cents.
Extra Lady Ticket, 15 Cents.
ENTERTAINMENT commences at 8 o'clock.
A Grand Ball after the Entertainment.
First class professional Vaudeville.
Talent furnished by the Actors Protective Union.

PARTY NEWS.

Activity of Militant Socialists East, West, North and South.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary Henry Kuhn, 184 William street, N. Y.

NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS — Secretary Robert Bandlow, 193 Champlain St., Cleveland, O.

National Executive Committee.

Meeting of March 22d. Comrade Matchett in the chair. Absent, Bennett and Furman, the latter excused. The financial report for the week ending March 19th showed receipts to the amount of $161.50; expenditures, $70.80; balance for the week, $90.60.

Keinard reported good meetings in Texas, many questions asked and great interest shown. A communication was received from the Committee on Charter, which was ordered printed in THE PEOPLE. Comrade Wm. Seubert was appointed to investigate a complaint against Section Evergreen.

Section Washington reported the election of the Maryland State Committee, the seat of which is to be in Washington, according to the decision of the general vote of the Maryland Sections. Denver has been selected as the seat of the Colorado State Committee, and the Comrades there ask for further information in regard to the management of affairs. New Bedford reported good work for the party and success along the whole line. Comrade Vanderporten reported the formation of an English Branch of Section Gloversville; Section Amsterdam has also organized an English Branch. The Indiana State Committee desires aid to organize in the gas belt of that State. They were informed that Keinard will visit them after he gets through in Ohio.

Charters were granted to new Sections in Austin and Houston, Tex.; Gas City, Ind.; Johnston, R. I.

L. A. MALKIEL, Rec. Secy.

Canada.

MONTREAL, March 13.—Meeting of National Executive Committee held on this date, Comrade Brennan in the chair; members present: Saunders, Severs and Moore; absent and excused, Kelly, Olson and Senior. Communication from London with particulars of election recently held there, also requesting that N. E. C. take up revised constitution of the party in United States and adapt it to Canada, etc. Owing to National Secretary leaving Montreal, the recording secretary will perform the duties of both offices until election of new N. E. C. this month. The Secretary instructed to notify London that application card submitted receives N. E. entire approval; also instructed to write Toronto, Hamilton and Port Arthur. The ballot taken for seat of National Executive Committee results as follows:

	Toronto.	Montreal.
Sec. London	..	59
Sec. Toronto	22	..
Sec. Montreal	..	15
Total	22	74

G. A. MORE, Rec. Secy.

Connecticut.

Section Hartford wishes to announce that owing to the destruction by fire of Germania Hall, their Commune celebration will be held in Sängerbund Hall instead. The change does not interfere with the date set, March 26th, nor with the programme originally mapped out.

CHAS. STODEL, Organizer.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Mass.—Karl Marx Class, which has been meeting at Harugari Hall, Tremont street, will henceforth meet at Unity Hall, 724 Washington street, every Friday, at 8 p. m. Any persons desirous of studying the science of wealth production as elucidated by Karl Marx are cordially invited to attend. No instruction fee.

New Jersey.

WEST HOBOKEN, March 16.—A new German-American Branch, No. 2, Third Ward, Section Hudson County, of the S. L. P., was organized March 8th. We mean to make it one of the strongest branches in Hudson County.

New York.

Regular meeting of the General Committee of Section Greater New York, S. L. P., will be held on Saturday, March 26th, 8 p. m., at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street, New York. Delegates should not fail to attend.

L. ABELSON, Organizer.

Free Lecture under the auspices of the New York Scandinavian Section, S. L. P. A lecture on the subject "The Lesson of Lattimer" will be delivered at Teutonia Assembly Rooms, 158-160 Third avenue, near 16th street, New York, Sunday, March 27th, at 7:30 p. m., by S. Lissauer. We earnestly and cordially invite and request uncorrupted and self-respecting men and women, who love right and justice, to accept this opportunity of offering a ringing protest against one of the most hideous legal crimes of modern times, by attending the lecture in large numbers.

Song by the Scandinavian Workingmen's Singing Society. Free discussion.

To the Assembly Districts, Wards and Branches of Section Greater New York, S. L. P.

The above organizations are requested to send to the undersigned not later than March 26th the result of the general vote on the candidates for National Secretary and members to the National Executive Committee, S. L. P. The vote of the above organizations received after the above date will not be counted. Organizations are also requested to make a settlement with the Section Denver, S. L. P., raffle tickets.

L. ABELSON, Organizer,
Section Greater New York, S. L. P.,
64 E. 4th street, New York.

Railroad Men, Attention!

Railroad Men, Attention! Grand Rally. Under the auspices of the Bronx Borough Labor Club, at the Labor Lyceum, 3d avenue and 149th street, on Monday evening, March 28, at 8 o'clock, Mr. Hugo Vogt will deliver an address on the "Economic Battle."

Mr. Wm. L. Brower, Mr. H. Balkam and Mr. P. Murphy will deliver short speeches.

Vocal and instrumental music. All workers on steam and surface railroads cordially invited to attend.

Howard Balkam, Joseph Wright, John J. Kinneally, Committee.

Buffalo, N. Y.

BUFFALO, N. Y.—This Saturday, March 26th, at 8 p. m., the Labor Lyceum Association will hold in Labor Lyceum, 550 Broadway, its monthly family social. Every Comrade and friend of the S. L. P. and the L. L. A. is heartily invited to attend with families and friends. Admission free.

Sunday, the 27th, at 10 a. m. sharp is the second lesson of the Karl Marx Class. Those who attended the first lesson were pleased to find it even more instructive and useful than they anticipated. Whoever wants to join the class yet while it is just starting should be present at the Labor Lyceum at 10 a. m. sharp. No restriction of any kind. No charges.

The American Branch, S. L. P., will hold this Sunday, at 8 p. m., a business meeting, and Sunday, April, the 3d, at 8 p. m., a discussion meeting. Subject: "Is Preaching of Class Hatred Justifiable?" Everybody welcome.

Rhode Island.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 20.—Our Section will hold a joint meeting next Sunday, March 27, and very likely some action will be taken to help swell the subscriptions to our official organ.

At its present reduced rates THE PEOPLE ought to more than double its circulation, and our Comrades in Providence will not fail to use all their efforts in that direction, as we know very well that where THE PEOPLE is read the most there a healthy class-conscious Socialist movement exists. We have no Debs nor Crabs movement in our midst, and the fakirs usually give "Little Rhody" a wide berth.

To work, Comrades! An increased circulation of our weekly PEOPLE means a solid foundation for a "Daily People." A. P. WORKMAN.

Virginia.

ROANOKE, Va., March 20.—Section Roanoke will put a full ticket in the field for the municipal election as an educator. J. L. DADDON.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

General Executive Board, S. T. & L. A.

At the last meeting W. L. Brower was chairman.

The Secretary was instructed to request the Prog. Musical Union No. 1, Brooklyn, to decide which central body they are going to join, as D. A. No. 3 has ceased to exist.

F. W. Wilson was authorized to visit the L. A.'s at Newark, N. J., as D. A. No. 4 has not met for a long time.

Applications for charters were read and granted as follows: Textile Weavers' Union, Spinners' Union and Mixed Trade Alliance, all from New Bedford, Mass.; International Maccaroni Workers, N. Y.; Richmond Mixed Alliance, Richmond, Va.; Bohemian Mixed Alliance, N. Y.; Shoe Fitters' Union of Greater New York; and Longshoremens and Seamen's Union, Hoboken, N. J.

N. Y. Shoe Workers' Union and Excelsior Labor Club voted for Philadelphia and Sept. 19. Tailors' Prog. Union No. 11 voted for Philadelphia, July 4.

D. A. 49 sent a communication that Musical Prot. All. 1,028 complained that the Carl Sahm Club and Prog. Musical Union No. 1 did not send its delegates to the Joint Executive Board. J. Schlossberg and W. L. Brower were elected a committee to take charge of this matter, with power to call a meeting of the Joint Board of Musicians to draw up rules, and if all the members of the Joint Board do not appear, to draw up such rules with the number who does.

General Council of Shoe Workers announced that they won the strike at S. Weil's factory in one week, although the Boot & Shoe Workers' Union sent W. Clark on to offer its members to take the places of the strikers.

Questions from Fritz Bode, Bartonville, Ill., were referred to the Secretary to reply.

C. Vander Porten, Gloversville, N. Y., desired organizing material, as did also W. J. Hopper, Macon, Ga., and Torestrom, Worcester, Mass.

Jer. O'Fihelly, Abington, Mass., acknowledged receipt of organization material, and that he was engaged in organizing.

W. Ritchie, West Newton, Pa., announced that there is a large field at West Newton, Pa., among the coal miners to be worked for the S. T. & L. A. A good organizer would meet with great success.

A circular from the United Labor and Reform Convention for May 2, at St. Louis, Mo., was tabled.

A letter from the Prog. Rolled Cigarette Makers' Union relative to the label was filed.

D. A. No. 1.
(CENTRAL LABOR FEDERATION OF N. Y.)

Max Sontheimer, delegate of the German Waiters' Union No. 1 was chairman at last Sunday's meeting of the N. Y. Central Labor Federation, D. A. No. 1, S. T. & L. A., and Louis Lustig, delegate of the Waiters' Alliance Liberty, was vice-chairman.

A letter from the 17 suspended members Prog. Rolled Cigarette Makers was read, and a debate followed. The following resolution was unanimously adopted: "Resolved, That as Dorfman denied making a statement that Bohm & Waldinger had organized these suspended members into an alliance, the C. L. F. is satisfied with his declaration, and further declares that no delegate organized the cigarette makers."

Arbitration Committee reported having again called upon Seidenberg & Co., and saw Supt. Pisco. He stated that he would stand by his first agreement and make no other. The report was adopted.

Organization Committee will hold an important meeting Wednesday at 64 E. 4th street.

Ind. Bakers' Union, Branch 2, reported voting for Buffalo, N. Y. Two workmen employed by baker boss Kruse joined the union; one still remains.

United Engineers' Union No. 1 reported voting for Buffalo July 4.

German Waiters' Union No. 1 reported that Turn Hall, 66 E. 4th street, was now a union hall. The Arbitration Committee was instructed to call upon Brommers' Union Park. H. Vogt will deliver a lecture on the "Primary Bill" on Friday, March 25, at 385 Bowery, at 4 p. m.

Waiters' Alliance Liberty reported voting for Buffalo July 4, as did also Bohemian Butchers' Union No. 1.

Silver Workers' Prot. Association reported that the name of the member who agitated against the collections made for the New Bedford strikers was Wm. J. Simons, vice-president of the Silversmiths' Benevolent Society.

Progressive Typographical Union No. 83 reported voting for Buffalo, July 4. A member of the S. T. & L. A. named T. After, it was alleged, was trying to induce their members to join the Hebrew Amer. Typo. Union. Charges will be brought.

Pressmen & Feeders' Union reported voting for Buffalo, July 4. Boss Zünger 171 East Broadway, reduced the wages 35 per cent.

Ind. Bakers' Union, Branch 2, remitted this list of bakeries to be referred to the Arbitration Committee: Grünig, 9th avenue, between 49th and 50th streets; Bausch, 9th avenue, between 42d and 43d streets; and Schade, 8th avenue, between 42d and 43d streets.

N. Y. Cooks & Pastry Cooks reported having visited the following parks by committee for the purpose of having its members employed, and receiving promises to that effect: Brommers' Union Park, Sulzer's Westchester Park, and Guterding's Cosmopolitan Park. Urbach's Park has been sold, and a committee will visit the new proprietor, Mayser.

Swedish Machinist Union collected $43.65 for the New Bedford strikers.

Progressive Rolled Cigarette Makers' Union remitted complimentary tickets for the ball on April 3, at Tammany Hall. They were accepted, and a committee will be elected at the next meeting:

D. A. 49.

The regular meeting of D. A. 49 was held on Friday evening, March 18th, with the D. M. W. De Leon presiding.

Roll call showed all officers present except District Statistician Krinks, who was excused.

Delegates admitted: From L. A. 68, William Ray; from L. A. 144, Valentine Reinmuth.

Reports of officers: D. M. W. reported that the cigarmakers in Seidenberg's factory, 71st street and Avenue A, went on strike on Monday, March 14th. Members of the Pioneer Cigarmakers, L. A. 141, who worked on the so-called Kelly floor in this factory, were given no notice of the strike, and in order to find out what the difficulty was, a committee was appointed to see those who were out on strike, and inquire what their grievances were. The committee called at the headquarters of the strikers and made known their mission. Isaac Bennett, the chairman, refused any information, and ordered the committee out, saying they belonged to a scab union, and he did not care what they did. The strikers wanted to hear the committee, but Bennett rapped with the gavel until the committee retired. The Pioneer men then held a shop meeting and decided to stop work pending further instructions from their local. At the regular meeting of their local held on Thursday evening, they appointed a committee to confer with the district officers and investigate the trouble. At the local meeting a man by the name of Simon, who was a spy of the International Union, and was also a member of the Cigarette Union, through false statements was initiated, but on the truth about him being found out, he was put out of the meeting. The committee and district officers held a meeting Friday morning, and Superintendent Pisco, who had sent word he would like to be heard, was allowed to make a statement. Mr. Pisco stated that there had been no demands presented to him, and therefore he did not know what the strike was for, unless it was to compel him to be the shop collector for dues for the International Union, which three-fourths of his employees refused to have anything more to do with. The local is holding a special meeting this evening to hear the report of the committee, and their action will be reported to this district at once.

On motion report was received.

The Secretary reported having organized the Longshoremen & Seamen's Union of Hoboken on Sunday, March 13, and also organized the Shoefitters' Union on Friday, March 11th. Attended the meeting of the Glove Cutters' Union on March 14th, who wanted to hear the aims and objects of the Alliance; explained, but having too much business to attend to, requested us to call on Monday, March 21st, when a special meeting will be held for that purpose. Attended meeting of the Broad Silk Weavers' Union, who requested the district to call another mass meeting on Tuesday, March 22d. The members of L. A. 298 and 2394 had been involved in trouble in Cramer's shoe factory. Had adjusted the same to the satisfaction of the members. Assisted the D. M. W. in the trouble of the Pioneer Cigarmakers' Union. Saw a hall at 475 Pearl street to hold the district meetings. On motion report was received.

Communications: Invitation from the N. Y. Socialist Literary Society to attend their masque and civic ball. On motion, accepted and committee appointed to attend. Letter from Gen Secretary Bohm in answer to inquiry of the Secretary. Received and filed.

One from Max Rosenberg, of the 28th Assembly District, S. L. P., answering inquiry of the Secretary. Received and filed.

One from J. Niemann requesting speakers for the Italian Longshoremen. Referred to the Secretary.

One from L. A. 140 requesting speaker for their mass meeting. Referred to Secretary.

One from L. A. 84.

L. A. 84 requests the district to correct the statement in the last report wherein it stated they had voted for an interchange of cards with the International Union. They merely voted upon a plan for harmony, which was afterwards rejected by the International Union.

Reports of Committees:

Committee on Ways and Means having submitted no report, on motion was decided to make this a special order of business at the next regular meeting.

Secretary was instructed to call the Auditing Committee together.

Committee on Reunion reported that they could secure Brommers' Union Park for Saturday, August 27th. Moved and seconded that committee be instructed to engage the park for that date.

It was resolved to hold mass meetings and assist L. A. 84 in organizing bakers into the Alliance.

Secretary was instructed to engage the hall at 475 Pearl street for the first and third Fridays in the month.

Reports of L. A.'s:

L. A. 11 donated $5 to the Agitation Fund, and voted for Philadelphia and July 4th for holding the next convention.

L. A. 43. Secretary reported that they were in good working order, and prospects are that they will increase in membership.

L. A. 68. Report progress; voted for Philadelphia and Sept. 19th for convention.

L. A. 84. Progress; voted for Philadelphia and Sept. 19th for the convention.

L. A. 109 held an agitation meeting for shoeworkers, and Comrade Brower spoke on the Boot and Shoe Workers versus the S. T. & L. A.

L. A. 140 will hold mass meeting for railroad men on March 28th. Comrade Vogt will speak.

L. A. 141. Initiating new members and will soon hold agitation meetings uptown. They also present resolutions in relation to the Seidenberg difficulty, requesting the district to call a mass meeting in Bohemia Hall, and have the same advertised in the "Volks-Zeitung" and circulars.

On motion, request was granted.

L. A. 144. Progress; will hold a mass meeting next Tuesday night.

L. A. 298. Progress; will hold quarterly meeting March 25th. Vote for Philadelphia and Sept. 19th for convention.

L. A. 1563 donated $2 to the Agitation Fund and $1.50 to the May Day conference. Voted for Philadelphia and Sept. 19th for convention.

L. A. 2394. Reports progress; will hold quarterly meeting on March 22d, and will hold their monthly smoker on March 29th.

Locals absent: L. A.'s 1028 and 122.

The Secretary was instructed to notify the delegates who were absent to attend the next meeting, which will be held at 475 Pearl street.

W. L. BROWER, Secy.

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Rhode Island.

Those interested in Socialism and desiring to arrange for lectures or other means of propaganda, are requested to communicate with the secretary of the State Committee.

Anthony McDonald, 14 Handy Street, Providence, or to attend the meetings of the State Committee held every SATURDAY EVENING at 8 P. M. in TEXTILE HALL, Olneyville.

Rhode Island State Committee,
320 ANTHONY McDONALD, Sec'y.

Trades and Societies Calendar

Standing advertisements of Trades Unions and other Societies (not exceeding five lines) will be inserted under this heading hereafter at the rate of $5.00 per annum.

Organizations should not lose such an opportunity of advertising their places of meetings.

Carl Sahm Club (Musicians Union. Meetings every Tuesday at 10 a. m., at 64 East 4th street, New York Labor Lyceum. Business Secretary: Fret. 38

Central Labor Federation of New York (S. T. & L. A., D. A. No. 1). Meets at 2.30 every Sunday afternoon at 64 East 4th street, New York City. All bona-fide trade and labor Unions should be represented. Communications are to be sent to the corresponding Secretary, Ernest Bohm, 64 East 4th street, New York City. 38

Cigarmakers' Progressive International Union No. 90. Office and Employment Bureau: 64 East 4th street.—District I (Bohemian), 324 East 71st street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District II (German), at 213 Forsyth St., meets every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District III, meets at 1527 avenue A, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District IV, meets at 342 West 42nd street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—The Board of Supervisors meets every Tuesday at 1422 2nd avenue, at 8 p. m. 38

Empire City Lodge (Machinists), meets every 2d and 4th Wednesday evening at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street.
273 Secretary: PETER STAPLE.

German Waiters' Union of New York, Office: 385 Bowery, Union Hall, 1st floor. Meetings every Friday at 4 p. m. Board of Supervisors meets every Wednesday at 4 p. m., at the same hall. 724

Musical Protective Alliance No. 1028, D. A. 49, S. T. & L. A., Headquarters 79 E. 4th street. Meetings every Friday at 12 o'clock noon. Fred. Hartmann, Pres.; Fred. Woll, corr. Sec'y, 79 E. 4th St. J. S. Krings, Business agent. 241

Section Essex County, S. L. P., meets the first Sunday in each month at 3 p. m. in the hall of "Essex County Socialist Club," 76 Springfield Ave., Newark, N. J. 189

Skandinavian Section, S. L. P. Meets 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at 10 o'clock a. m., at Schuler's Hall, 231-233 East 32d St., New York City. Subscription orders taken for the Scand. Socialist Weekly, SCAND. AM. ARBETAREN.

Socialist Science Club, S. L. P., 34th 35th A. D. S. E. Cor. of 3d Av. and 149th St. Open every evening. Regular business meeting every Friday.

Progressive Clothing Cutters & Trimmers Union, L. A. 68 of S. T. & L. A.—Headquarters, 64 East 4th street, Labor Lyceum.—Regular meeting every Thursday evening, at 8 P. M. 303

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☞ For addresses of the Branch bookkeepers see "Vorwärts".

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